

Trades & Applied Technology Programs

Automotive Service Technician

offered at the Nanaimo and Powell River campuses

10-month Entry-Level Certificate Program

Fee Category: VII

The information below pertains to the program offered at the Nanaimo campus. For information about the programs offered at the Cowichan and Powell River campuses, please call the Coordinator at the applicable campus.

The Program

This full-time, comprehensive program is designed to prepare students for a career in the automotive repair trade. The program is taught through daily lectures, seminars and demonstrations of current servicing techniques, as well as extensive practical training in a functioning, automotive shop setting. The course curriculum reflects today's technology and is relevant to the needs of industry. The instructors are all highly trained Journeyperson Automotive Technicians with at least ten years' trade experience.

A typical day consists of two hours of theory in the classroom and four hours of practical, hands-on training in the automotive shop. Homework will take approximately one or two hours a day. Classes are held Monday to Friday, 8 am - 3 pm; good attendance is mandatory. The program also includes job-finding seminars and work experience sessions at a local repair facility or dealership to prepare students for the workplace.

This program is suited to individuals with all levels of mechanical experience. Upon successful completion of the all program courses, students receive an entry-level (Level 1) Automotive Service Technician certificate and an Essential Skills for the Workplace - Automotive Service Technician certificate.

Note: Human Resources and Skills Development Canada may assist students in this program; contact your local Employment Centre regarding eligibility for sponsorship.

A free information session is usually held in February/March. Check with the Advising Centre for more details, 250-740-6410, or visit viu.ca/infosessions.

Apprenticeship Information

Graduates of this program may receive credit towards the technical portion of the first year of the Automotive Service Technician Apprenticeship program. In order to complete the apprenticeship and become a journeyperson, graduates would find an employer in the industry to provide on-the-job training and return to VIU for 6 weeks per year in each of the next three years.

The Automotive Service Technician Apprenticeship program consists of 4 years of on-the-job experience combined with in-school technical training in order to become eligible to write the Interprovincial (Red Seal) Examination for their journeyperson certification.

For more information on apprenticeship training, please visit the website at www.itabc.ca, contact

the Industry Training Centre at 1-866-660-6011, or call VIU's Apprenticeship Coordinator at 250-740-6255. Visit VIU's Trades and Applied Technology Apprenticeship page for more information and schedules.

Career Opportunities

Graduates of this program may find work as apprentice automotive technicians, or as automotive parts persons/service writers. Job opportunities exist on Vancouver Island, and throughout BC and Canada. Upon receiving the Interprovincial Certificate, graduates are eligible to work anywhere in Canada.

Admission Requirements

- Grade 12, or equivalent, or mature student status.
- Min. 17 years of age.
- Valid B.C. driver's license.
- Successful completion of assessment testing.
- Personal profile.
- See also Trades general admission requirements.

Apply for Admission Online or Print Application Form

Notes on Admission

- Applicants should not be allergic to solvents and/or lubricants.
- Those with good reasoning, basic science, mathematical, study skills, and a strong mechanical aptitude will experience the most success.
- Enrolment in this program is limited. Students who meet or exceed the minimum admission requirements may not necessarily be admitted to the program.

Start Date and Application Deadline

The program starts in September, and applications are accepted from November 15 to March 31. Assessment test results and all documentation must be submitted by April 15. Applications received after March 31 will be considered late and will be processed as space permits.

Special Expenses

Textbooks cost about \$300, and steel-toed boots, safety glasses and seat and fender covers are approximately \$100.

All fees and costs are subject to change without prior notice.

Program Outline

- AUTO 116T (Shop Skills)
- AUTO 123T (Auto Shop Safety)
- AUTO 132T (Welding Module)
- AUTO 134T (Basic Automotive Electrical)
- AUTO 135T (Battery/Fasteners)
- AUTO 137T (Brake Systems)

- AUTO 141T (Suspension/Steering)
- AUTO 147T (Basic Engines)
- AUTO 151T (Basic Engine Performance)
- AUTO 157T (Basic Charging/Starting Systems)
- AUTO 160T (Basic Drive Trains)

- ESFA 100T (Personal Management Skills)
- ESFA 105T (Automotive Service Technician Math)
- ESFA 110T (Business Operations)
- ESFA 115T (The Emerging Workplace)
- ESFA 120T (Employment Strategies)

All program courses must be successfully completed before certificates will be issued.

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